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ATTN: Patent Application 10/803,507

United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 phone: 571-272-1804

Dear Mr. Jeanglaude:

As per our phone conversation earlier today, this letter is to respond to your August 12, 2005 office action on which you rejected Claims 1-23 based on the article "A Linear Time, Constant Space Difference Algorithm" by Burns and Long.

Although the parameters M and N in this article denote the sizes of the two files (the source file and target files) as do the parameters m and n in my patent, the parameter K is used differently in this article than in my patent.

This article teaches one to use K space in addition to the space for the source and target files, for a total of (M+N) + K space. That is, the phrase "Constant Space" in the title of this article refers to space in addition to M+N.

In contrast, all independent claims of my patent require that T can be recovered from S using at most $MAX\{m,n\}+K$ space where $0 \le K < MIN\{m,n\}$. So even when K is as large as allowed by my claims $(K = MIN\{m,n\}-1)$, it must be that less than m+n space is used (since the quantity $MAX\{m,n\}+K$ can be at most m+n-1). That is, the phrase "In-Place" in the title of my patent refers to the fact that decoding uses space less than m+n.

I hope that this explanation suffices for you to allow my claims, please feel free to call or write me with any further questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely

James A. Storer

[I GOT YOUR PHONE MISSAGE AND TRING TO CAU YOU,
I WILL TRY CACLING ACAIN. HERE IS A COPY OF
THE LETTER I SENT YOU IN SEPTEMBER.)